MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Am I to understand that, when the duty that was paid for 42 tolas, if asked to be paid for 38 tolas, it does not amount to additional taxation?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): So far as the public are concerned, it is not taxation. This is an unearned increment which the merchants were gaining at the expense of the public.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): In view of the fact that the price has been raised, may I know whether the Member is aware that the policy of Government is that this Council should be consulted before imposing fresh taxation?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I rise to a point of order as to whether this question arises as a supplementary question.

PRESIDENT: No, it does not.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether the Finance Committee was consulted before imposing this fresh taxation?

PRESIDENT: The Finance Committee, Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai, deals with expenditure and not with the question of taxation.

Literacy between the ages of 18 and 25.

340. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of persons between the ages of 18 and 25 who are totally illiterate?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information required by the Member is not available. The attention of the Member is, however, invited to Chapter VIII of the latest Census Report in which statistics for literacy by age and sex are given and from which the figures for illiteracy may be obtained by calculation.

The late Mr. Sankara Aiyar of Karamanai.

341. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Are the Government aware that one Mr. Sankara Aiyar lost his life in a heroic attempt to rescue persons caught in an accidental fire that broke out recently in a street at Karamanai, and if so, will they be pleased to mark their appreciation of his bravery and spirit of self-sacrifice by rendering substantial help to his wife and children said to have been left helpless?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government kindly call for the report from the Police Commissioner?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

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